

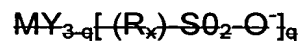
**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claims 1-10 (canceled)

11. (Currently amended) Catalytic composition, comprising ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ one or more compounds corresponding to the empirical formula:



with M representing an at least trivalent element, preferably known for giving Lewis acids, where Y<sup>-</sup> is a monovalent anion or a monovalent anionic functional group and where R<sub>x</sub> is a radical in which the a carbon carrying the sulfonic functional group is perhalogenated and where q is between 0.1 and 2.9, ~~advantageously from 0.5 to 2.5, preferably from 1 to 2, inclusive.~~

12. (Currently amended) Catalytic composition according to Claim 11, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein the composition is obtained, ~~advantageously~~ in situ, by introduction of at least one acid ξH onto a salt MY<sub>μ</sub> where M is ~~advantageously chosen from [lacuna]~~ selected from the group consisting of rare earth metals, gallium, germanium, arsenic, indium, tin, antimony, thallium and lead and, wherein M

represents the charge of the cation M, wherein Y is a monovalent anion of a monovalent anionic functional group and wherein  $\xi$  is an anion or an anionic functional group carried by a perhalogenated atom.

13. (Currently amended) Compound of formula:



- where M is an element in an at least trivalent cationic form selected from the group consisting of rare earth metals, gallium, germanium, arsenic, indium, tin, antimony, thallium, lead and bismuth;

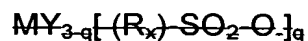
- where  $\mu$  represents the charge of the cation corresponding to M;

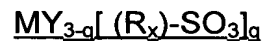
- where  $R_x$  is a radical in which a carbon carrying the sulfonic group is perhalogenated

- where  $Y^-$  represents ~~the~~ an anion or anions, other than the sulfonates perhalogenated on the carbon carrying said sulfonate functional group;

- where q represents an integer chosen within the 5 closed range from 1 to  $\mu-1$ .

14. (Currently amended) Compound according to Claim 13 of formula:





with M representing a trivalent metal, preferably known for giving Lewis acids, where Y<sup>-</sup> is a monovalent anion or a monovalent anionic functional group and where R<sub>x</sub> is a radical in which the a carbon carrying the sulfonic functional group is perhalogenated and where q is ~~an integer chosen between 1 and~~ or 2 ~~(that is to say, 1 or 2).~~

15. Canceled.

16. Canceled

17. (New) The catalytic composition of claim 11, wherein q is between 0.5 and 2.5.

18. (New )The catalytic composition of claim 11, wherein q is between 1 and 2.